In the Claims:

Amend claims 1, 16 and 17.

1. (Currently amended). A shank for a rotary and/or percussive tool, comprising at least two, axially spaced, guide regions (1a, 1b); at least one radially projecting entrain strip (2)[[;]] and at least one locking groove (3) arranged between the at least two guide regions (1a, 1b) ~~and~~, the at least one locking groove (3) being axially closed at opposite ends thereof ~~for receiving~~ and adapted to receive at least one radially displaceable and axially displaceable, within predetermined limits, a locking member (4) of a chuck,

wherein ~~at least one of~~ the ~~at least~~ two guide regions (1a, 1b) ~~has~~ have a guide dimension (F), and an axial region (A) of the at least one locking groove (3) has a cross-sectional width (B) that includes a radial extent of the entrain strip (2), and a thickness (D) measured in a direction transverse to the width measurement direction, and

wherein the guide dimension (F) is greater than the thickness (D) but smaller than the width (B).

2. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, wherein the axial region (A) of the at least one locking groove (3) and at least one of the guide

regions (1a, 1b) have a substantially same cross-sectional surface area within a tolerance range of ± 10%.

3. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the opposite ends of the at least one locking groove (3) has one of a spherical and cylindrical axial stop surface (6) engageable by the locking member (4) having, respectively, one of a spherical and cylindrical shape.

4. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, wherein a maximum aperture angle (α) of a bottom surface of the at least one locking groove (3), which is defined by a cross-section of the axial region (A) of the at least one locking groove (3), amounts to at least 120°.

5. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, further comprising a second, radially projecting, entrain strip (2) located diametrically opposite the at least one entrain strip,

wherein a bottom surface of the at least one locking groove (3), which is located between the at least one and second entrain strips (2), forms a first functional surface (7a, 7b) formed of smooth surface sections exhibiting one of a smooth transition and a sharp edge transition, with a transition region being curved in a direction to a tool axis.

6. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 5, wherein the smooth surface sections are even.

7. (Original). A shank according to claim 5, further comprising a second locking groove arranged diametrically opposite the at least one locking groove, with a bottom surface of the second groove, which is located between the at least one and second entrain strips, forming a second functional surface (7a, 7b) located opposite the first functional surface.

8. (Original). A shank according to claim 1, wherein the at least one guide region (1a, 1b) has a cylindrical outer surface.

9. (Original). A shank according to claim 1, wherein a second entrain strip (2), which is arranged diametrically opposite the at least one entrain strip, is provided in the axial region (A) of the at least one locking groove.

10. (Original). A shank according to claim 1, further comprising a second locking groove (3) arranged diametrically opposite the at least one locking groove and having a same shape.

11. (Original). A shank according to claim 10, further comprising a second entrain strip arranged diametrically opposite the at least one entrain strip in the axial region (A) of the locking grooves.

12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, comprising further axial regions axially spaced from each other and arranged one of parallel to each other, crosswise to each other, and at an acute angle (β) to each other.

14. (Original). A shank according to claim 13, further comprising a third guide region (1c) arranged between the axial regions (A, A^1).

15. (Original). A shank according to claim 14, further comprising a further, segment-shaped guide region (1d) provided between the locking grooves (3) and the entrain strips (2).

16. (Currently amended). A tool set, comprising a first tool having a shank having at least two, axially spaced, guide regions, at least one radially projecting entrain strip (2)[[,]] and at least one locking groove (3) arranged between the at least two guide regions (1a, 1b), the at least one locking groove being ~~and~~ axially closed at opposite ends thereof, and adapted to receive ~~for receiving~~ at least one radially displaceable and axially displaceable, within predetermined limits, a locking member (4) of a chuck, with ~~at least one~~ of the ~~at least~~ two guide regions (1a, 1b) having a guide dimension (F), and an axial region (A) of the locking groove (3) having a cross-sectional width (B) that includes a radial extent of the entrain strip (2), and a thickness (D) measured in a direction

transverse to width measurement direction, and with the guide dimension (F) being greater than the thickness (D) but smaller than the width (B); and a second tool having a similar shank,

wherein the axial region (A) of the shank of the first tool has a thickness/width ratio greater than a thickness/width ratio of the axial region (A) of the shank of the second tool.

17. (Currently amended). A chuck for receiving a shank of a tool and having at least two, axially spaced, guide regions (1a, 1b), at least one radially projecting entrain strip (2)[[;]] and at least one locking groove (3) arranged between the at least two guide regions (1a, 1b), the at least one locking groove being ~~and~~ axially closed at opposite ends thereof, and adapted to receive ~~for receiving~~ at least one radially displaceable and axially displaceable, within predetermined limits, locking member (4) of the chuck, with ~~at least one~~ of the ~~at least~~ two guide regions (1a, 1b) having a guide dimension (F), and an axial region (A) of the locking groove (3) has a cross-sectional width (B) that includes a radial extent of the entrain strip (2) and a thickness (D) measured in a direction transverse to the width measurement direction, and with the guide dimension (F) being ~~is~~ greater than the thickness (D) but smaller than the width (B), the chuck comprising two axially spaced inner guide surfaces ~~cooperation~~ cooperating with the

respective guide regions of the shank; at least one locking member (4) radially displaceable over a distance smaller than a half (F/2) of the guide dimension (F) of the guide region of the shank; and at least one rotation-transmitting element (5) circumferentially offset relative to the locking member (4) and having a radial extent, with respect to a tool axis (L) greater than a half (F/2) of the guide dimension (F).

18. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, wherein at the guide dimension (F) of the guide region (1a, 1b), the width (B) amounts to from the guide dimension (F) multiplied by 1.2 to the guide dimension (F) multiplied by 1.4, and the thickness (D) amounts to from the guide dimension (F) multiplied by .6 to the guide dimension (F) multiplied by .8.

19. (Previously presented). A shank according to claim 1, wherein the shank comprises a second entrain strip (2) located diametrically opposite the at least one entrain strip, the at least one entrain strip (2) and the second entrain strip (2) being located in the axial region of the at least one locking groove.

20. (Previously presented). A tool set according to claim 16, wherein each of the shanks of the first and second tools has a second entrain strip located diametrically opposite the at least one entrain strip, the at least one and second entrain strips of each shank being located in the axial region of a respective shank.